

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 L-03 FRB-03 OMB-01  
ITC-01 SP-02 USIA-06 AGRE-00 AID-05 CIAE-00  
COME-00 EB-08 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 OIC-02 SIL-01  
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-----038714 100801Z /10

R 092045Z SEP 77  
FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2171  
INFO USMISSION GENEVA  
USUN NEW YORK 730  
AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUENOS AIRES 6737

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: ECON, EGEN, UNCTAD  
SUBJECT: MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS: COMMODITIES - UNCTAD COMMON  
FUND MEETING NOVEMBER 7 - DECEMBER 2

REF: STATE 191312

1. GOA AGENCIES INVOLVED IN POLICY MAKING ON COMMON  
FUND AND INTEGRATED PROGRAM FOR COMMODITIES ARE  
FOREIGN MINISTRY, SECRETARIAT OF FOREIGN TRADE, AND  
SECRETARIAT OF AGRICULTURE. THE PRINCIPAL POLICY MAKER  
IN THIS CASE APPEARS TO BE THE FOREIGN OFFICE, THAT IS  
TO SAY, THE OFFICE OF THE SUB-SECRETARY FOR INTERNATIONAL  
ECONOMIC AFFAIRS, HEADED BY COMODORO RAUL CURA. THE  
SECRETARY OF FOREIGN TRADE ALBERTO FRAGUIO ALSO HAS  
AN IMPORTANT IN-PUT. AT THE WORKING LEVEL IN FOREGIN  
TRADE IT IS DR. ARTURO HOTTON REISLER WHO AS DIRECTOR  
GENERAL FOR MULTILATERAL ECONOMIC NEGOTIATIONS HAS  
THE DAY-TO-DAY RESPONSIBILITIES FOR FORMULATING POLICY  
ON UNCTAD. THE SECRETARIAT OF AGRICULTURE HAS  
A RELATIVELY MINOR ROLE TO PLAY. THEIR MAN ON  
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THIS ISSUE IS CARLOS SANCHEZ AVALOS, DIRECTOR OF  
THE INTERNATIONAL AGRICULTURAL SERVICE.

2. ONLY OFFICIAL FROM BUENOS AIRES EXPECTED TO  
ATTEND NOVEMBER MEETING IS FIRST SECRETARY NOEMI  
GOMEZ OF THE FOREIGN OFFICE. SHE HAS BEEN AT  
PREVIOUS MEETINGS. SENIOR FOREIGN MINISTRY

OFFICIAL CONSULTED ON THIS SUBJECT, JUAN FLEMING, CHIEF OF THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION, WAS EMPHATIC IN STATING THAT THEY INTEND TO GIVE THEIR GENEVA DELEGATION FIRM INSTRUCTIONS ON THIS ISSUE. ADMITTING THAT IN THE PAST THEIR GENEVA DELEGATIONS HAVE ACTED WITH CONSIDERABLE AUTONOMY, FLEMING SAID THAT HE HOPED TO CHANGE THIS. HE VOLUNTEERED THAT CLOSER CONSULTATIONS WITH THE U.S. WOULD BE VERY USEFUL TO THE ARGENTINE FOREIGN MINISTRY IN PREPARING ITS POSITION.

3. ACCORDINGLY, EMBASSY FEELS IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO HAVE U.S. EXPERT VISIT ARGENTINA, PREFERABLY IN SECOND WEEK OF OCTOBER TO DISCUSS COMMON FUND AND ICP.

4. ON THE SUBSTANTIVE SIDE, FLEMING INDICATED THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT WAS IN AGREEMENT WITH THE USG THAT AGREEMENTS TO STABILIZE INDIVIDUAL COMMODITIES SHOULD PROCEED IN PARALLEL WITH THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE COMMON FUND CONCEPT. HE INDICATED THAT SINCE THE NEGOTIATIONS ON THE COMMON FUND APPEARED TO BE QUITE A BIT MORE ADVANCED THAN THE NEGOTIATIONS IN THE INDIVIDUAL COMMODITY GROUPS HE THOUGHT THERE WAS A BASIC DECISION TO BE FACED AS TO WHETHER TO EXPEDITE COMMODITY NEGOTIATIONS OR TO CONFIDENTIAL

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SLOW DOWN THE WORK ON THE COMMON FUND. HE WAS ALSO CURIOUS AS TO WHAT THE U.S.'S POSITION ON THE CREATION OF THE FUND WOULD BE IN CONCEPTUAL TERMS. WOULD THE U.S. SUPPORT OR PROPOSE AN IPC WHICH RESULTED IN NET INCOME TRANSFERS TO LDC'S OR WILL THE U.S. INSIST ON HAVING THE FUND OPERATE ON A STRICTLY COMMERCIAL BASIS? WOULD THE U.S. CONCEPT OF A FUND ALLOW IT TO BE USED FOR ANYTHING OTHER THAN FINANCING BUFFER STOCKS? IN SUM, AT THIS LEVEL OF THE GOA AT LEAST THERE SEEMS TO BE GENUINE INTEREST IN THE U.S. POSITION AND A WILLINGNESS TO BE FLEXIBLE IN DEVELOPING THEIR OWN POSITION.  
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## Message Attributes

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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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